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# REPORT

OF THE

# COMMITTEE OF WAREHOUSES,

ON A MEMORIAL FROM THE

## Manufacturers of Gunpowder, and of other Commodities made from Saltpetre,

PRESENTED TO THE

Right Honourable the LORDS of the COMMITTEE of PRIVY COUNCIL for TRADE.

East Indies.
East India Company.
K.

# REPORT

IN consequence of a reference to the Committee of a letter from William Rawkener, Esq; dated 6th February 1793, enclosing the copy of a memorial from the manufacturers of gunpowder and of other commodities made from saltpetre, referred to the Right Honourable the Privy Council for Trade, your Committee have taken the subject into consideration.

The Memorialists apply for two distinct objects, namely, a Permission to import 1000 Tons of Saltpetre, duty free, &c. as the Lords of Council shall think fit, and

That it shall be lawful to export Saltpetre to any foreign country, &c. in future.

If your Committee could fairly ascertain that they should fulfil the intention of the Court and discharge the duty they owe to their constituents and to the Public by confining themselves to an opinion upon those points only, their Report would be very short, but when they recollect the numerous applications which have appeared from the Memorialists, who are dissatisfied with an act of Parliament calculated for their private advantage, in opposition to what your Committee conceive to be the real interest of the Public and of the Company, they presume the Court will expect a full and complete discussion of the subject in order that the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council

IN conſequence of a reference from the Court, of a letter from William Fawkener, Eſq; dated 6th February, 1793, incloſing the copy of a memorial from the manufacturers of gunpowder and of other commodities made from Saltpetre preſented to the Right Honourable the Privy Council for Trade, your Committee have taken the ſubject into their conſideration.

The Memorialiſts apply for two diſtinct objects, namely,

Permiſſion to import 1000 Tons at preſent under ſuch reſtrictions, &c. as the Lords of Council ſhall think fit, and

That it ſhall be lawful to import Saltpetre from any foreign country, &c. in future.

If your Committee could ſatisfy themſelves that they ſhould fulfil the intention of the Court and diſcharge the duty they owe to their conſtituents and to the Public by confining themſelves to an opinion upon theſe points only, their Report would be very ſhort, but when they recollect the numerous applications which have appeared from the Memorialiſts, who are diſſatisfied with an act of Parliament calculated for their private advantage, in oppoſition to what your Committee conceive to be the real intereſt of the Public and of the Company, they preſume that the Court will expect a full and complete diſcuſſion of the ſubject, in order that the Lords of the Committee of Privy Coun-

cil for Trade may be apprized of the magnitude and extent of the detriment arising from the preſent ſyſtem, in the hope that their Lordſhips will be induced to concur in ſome meaſure to relieve the Company, and conſequently to benefit the Public who are materially intereſted in the reſult.

The prayer of the memorial if complied with to the extent therein mentioned may ultimately tend to deprive the Company of an important branch of their trade, to curtail the means of liquidating their debts and of fulfilling thoſe engagements which it is in contemplation to form for the benefit of the Public. At the ſame time it will ſerve to eſtabliſh a precedent which may apply with ſtill more force to many other raw materials; as your Committee truſt that they ſhall be able to prove that the manufacturers of Gunpowder have no well founded claim to that extraordinary degree of protection which they have hitherto received, and ſtill leſs to a further extenſion of privileges which they have converted to their private advantage, to the detriment of the Company and of the Public.

Your Committee cannot accompliſh the object they propoſe to themſelves without bringing to the recollection of the Court the various occaſions they have had of diſcuſſing the pretenſions of the Gunpowder-makers who appear to have had in view the eſtabliſhing of two principles, namely,

Firſt, That Great Britain ought to be the general depot for Saltpetre, for the purpoſe of ſupplying all foreign places with Gunpowder.

Second, That as a Raw Material, the importation ought to be free, and at leaſt that it ſhould be ſupplied at ſo cheap a rate as to enable them to contend againſt every competitor.

A very ſuperficial view of the ſubject muſt ſatisfy their Lord-

ſhips

ſhips that the firſt point is not practicable: and if it were practicable, it could only be accompliſhed through the medium of an excluſive Company.

It is not ſufficient that Saltpetre is produced in great abundance and at a very low rate at Bengal, to enable the Company, or any deſcription of perſons, to dictate to the conſumer of Gunpowder. The article is, or may be produced almoſt every where, and is of that great importance in all military governments, as to render the price or value a ſecondary object of conſideration. It therefore forms part of the eſtabliſhment of all ſuch Governments, not only upon principles of prudence, but of neceſſity, for the firſt ſtep which His Majeſty's Miniſters have always taken in the expectation of war, has been to prohibit the exportation of Saltpetre, Gunpowder, with all naval and military Stores. Foreign nations are therefore convinced that they cannot rely upon Great Britain for the ſupply of Gunpowder, when it ſhall be moſt wanted, and are compelled to ſupport the neceſſary eſtabliſhments without conſidering the difference of the expence.

The particulars of the importation and exportation of Saltpetre, and of the exportation of Gunpowder, which are hereunto annexed,* will ſhew that notwithſtanding the great variation in the price of Saltpetre, the exportation has been trifling and accidental, excepting only one of the articles to Ireland, and the other to Africa.

In addition to theſe facts it muſt be obſerved, that the Company offer the Saltpetre to ſale at a price below its coſt, with a view of enabling the manufacturers to obtain an object, which your Committee conceive to be impracticable.

* Appendix No. 1. and 2.

The

The next point which they urge, that the importation of raw materials ought to be free, &c. your Committee do not mean to reſiſt as a general principle, but they contend that the commerce is ſo combined and interwoven with the welfare and even with the exiſtence of the empire in India, that its ſeparation becomes impracticable, and it can only be carried on with advantage to the Public through the medium of an excluſive company. Under theſe circumſtances your Committee conceive that it is incumbent on the manufacturers of Gunpowder to ſhew what peculiar hardſhips they labour under, or what juſt claims they have to urge in preference to other manufacturers, in return for thoſe diſtinguiſhed and extraordinary advantages which have been yielded to them by the late Act of Parliament, and ſtill more in ſupport of the further pretenſions they urge on the preſent occaſion.

In conſequence of the late Act of Parliament, the Company are compelled to offer Saltpetre for ſale, at a price which leaves a loſs. This operates with reſpect to the manufacturer as a bounty: and although it is nominally at the expence of the Company, yet as that loſs muſt curtail the means of extinguiſhing thoſe debts, which have been contracted for the defence of the empire during war, and as it may in future check the expectation which the Public have formed to participate in the annual ſurplus; this bounty, although it appears at firſt view to be paid by the Company, is in truth almoſt wholly at the expence of the Public.

It is therefore reaſonable and juſt to conſider, whether the manufacturers of Gunpowder are in that ſituation as to merit ſuch an uncommon and liberal indulgence, as they enjoy at preſent; the more ſo, as the policy of this country has been extremely

cautious

cautious in granting bounties to manufactures, even in their infant ſtate, and as no inſtance occurs to the recollection of your Committee, wherein ſuch indulgence has been extended to a manufacture ſo well eſtabliſhed as that of Gunpowder.

If there is reaſon for ſuch an indulgence, it muſt ariſe from ſome of the following circumſtances:

The number of perſons uſually employed in the manufacture of Gunpowder.

The diſtreſs or loſs which ariſes to the Principals who are concerned in carrying on the manufacture.

The probability that the bounty will not prove the means of ſupplying ſubſiſtence to thoſe who are at preſent employed, but alſo of extending the ſale in ſuch a manner, as to afford further employ to a conſiderable number of Britiſh ſubjects.

And finally, that the Public will participate in the advantages reſulting from the manufacture, in conſequence of the bounty which ſhe ſo liberally pays.

In regard to the firſt point, it is preſumed there are few, if any inſtances wherein a manufacture ſo valuable as that of Gunpowder employs ſo few hands; at leaſt your Committee may venture to aſſert, that there is no other inſtance wherein one-fourth part of the bounty, which the manufacturers of Gunpowder will receive, doth not furniſh employ for a great number of labourers, workmen, and perſons of a ſimilar deſcription.

The principals who are concerned in this trade, are generally known to be opulent, and no doubt would be offended at a ſuppoſition that any relief were neceſſary from the Public on their account.

The next point will require ſome explanation. In a manufacture which employs few hands, and whoſe principals are ſo

opulent, it cannot be ſuppoſed that they can have it in contemplation to ſolicit relief for their diſtreſs, or to aſſiſt ingenuity and induſtry, upon which principles, bounties from the Public are uſually granted. Their plea muſt reſt altogether upon the probable extenſion of the ſale of Gunpowder, as an indemnification to the Company and to the Public, for the loſs which they at preſent ſuſtain; and they may urge as a proof, that the quantity of Saltpetre, ſold by the Company, has encreaſed ſince the prices have been reduced.

It is preſumed that the reaſons already ſtated, which compel Military Governments to ſupport ſimilar manufactures, will prove, in a great degree, ſatisfactory; the more ſo, as our own policy goes decidedly to check all exportation whatſoever, at times when the article is moſt in demand. And with regard to the increaſed ſale, it may be attributed almoſt ſolely to the very flouriſhing ſtate of our commerce, ſince the peace; in particular, to the great number of ſhips employed in the Baltic, and in the fiſheries, as every ſhip muſt carry more or leſs Gunpowder, and ſome of them a conſiderable quantity.

But if no reaſon occurs hitherto, to juſtify the preſent very liberal indulgences to the manufacturers of Gunpowder, your Committee preſume, that what they have further to urge, will induce the Court to concur with them in opinion, that under a thorough and compleat inveſtigation of the ſubject, His Majeſty's Miniſters may be diſpoſed to relieve the Company and the Public from reſtrictions which are injurious to both, whilſt they only tend to promote the private advantage of from ten to twenty individuals, without any uſe or benefit whatſoever to the Public. When the coſt of Gunpowder is compared with the price at which it has been ſold; and more particularly when the price of Gun-

powder is compared with the ſales which the Company have made of their Saltpetre; it will appear from the following eſtimate that the profit to the manufacturers has been at all times enormous, and ſo far from meriting the foſtering hand of Government to be applied towards their relief by bounties, juſtice required that limitations and reſtrictions ought to have been laid upon the comparative price of Gunpowder, inſtead of that of Saltpetre.

| Prices of Saltpetre, at the Company's ſales, during the undermentioned years. | | | | | Prices of Powder during the ſame periods, as given in by the manufacturers. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | £. | s. | d. | | per barrell of 100 lb | | |
| In | 1783 March | 4 | 0 | 6 | | £. | s. | d. |
| | Sept. | 3 | 11 | 0 | Leſs by 5 per Cent. diſcount. | | | |
| | 1784 March | 3 | 5 | 6 | | F. 4 | 7 | 6 |
| | Sept. | 3 | 2 | 0 | | 3 | 15 | 0 |
| | 1785 March | 3 | 2 | 0 | | 3 | 15 | 0 |
| | Sept. | 3 | 2 | 0 | | | | |
| | 1786 March | 2 | 15 | 6 | | | | |
| | Sept. | 2 | 15 | 6 | | 3 | 12 | 6 |
| | 1787 March | 2 | 10 | 6 | | 3 | 12 | 6 |
| | Sept. | 2 | 5 | 3 | | 3 | 12 | 6 |
| | 1788 March | 2 | 2 | 6 | | 3 | 12 | 6 |
| | Sept. | 2 | 2 | 6 | | | | |
| | 1789 March | 2 | 2 | 6* | | | | |
| | Sept. | 1 | 18 | 6 | | | | |

Diſcount 3 per Cent.

Diſcount 10 per Cent. with a further 2½ for foreign orders.

But it muſt be remarked, theſe prices by no means correſpond with the information obtained from other quarters. How the difference is to be accouuted for, the manufacturers may perhaps be able to point out.

* N. B. The prices here given are of the Gruff Petre only.

In thoſe periods, the Company and individual Merchants we charged at much higher rates, as the following compariſons will ſhew:

| | Prices given in by the manufacturers. | | Prices charged to the Company. | | Prices charged to owners of ſhips. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *s.* | *d.* | *s.* | *d.* | *s.* | *d.* |
| In 1783 | 87 | 6 | 94 | 0 | 97 | 6 |
| 1784 | 75 | 0 | 94 | 0 | 85 | 0 |
| 1785 | 75 | 0 | 94 | 0 | 85 | 0 |
| 1786 | 72 | 6 | 94 | 0 | 85 | 0 |
| 1787 | 72 | 6 | 85 | 0 | 85 | 0 |
| 1788 | 72 | 6 | 82 | 6 | 82 | 6 |
| 1789 | 72 | 6 | 82 | 6 | 82 | 6 |

In a conference held on a former occaſion between your Committee and a deputation from the manufacturers when it was remarked to them, that the reduced prices of Powder bore no proportion to the fall in the price of Petre; it was anſwered, that the riſe in the other articles of its compoſition nearly counterbalanced the advantages derived in the fall of Petre. How far this is founded in fact your Committee are unable to ſtate, but if the materials on which the following eſtimates are formed, are correct, the aſſertion muſt fall to the ground.

Your Committee have been aſſured, that for the purpoſes of general calculation (although every manufacturer may not work preciſely on that ſcale) a barrel of Powder is compoſed of

| lb. |
|---|
| 60 Saltpetre |
| 20 Charcoal |
| 20 Brimſtone |

In 1783, when the price of Petre was £4. 6*d.* per cwt. leſs by 6½ per cent. diſcount.

60

| lb. | L. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 60 of Saltpetre coſt | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| 20 Charcoal | 0 | 1 | 9 |
| 20 Brimſtone at £. 16 per ton | 0 | 2 | 10 |
| £. | 2 | 4 | 11 |

In 1789.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 60 Saltpetre at £. 1 18s. 6d. is | 1 | 0 | 8 |
| 20 Charcoal, ſay at an advance of 50 per cent. in the price of 1783 | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| 20 Brimſtone at £. 18 per ton, the higheſt rate it has been for ſome years | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| £. | 1 | 6 | 4 |

Price of the raw materials in 1783, £. 2 4s. 11d. And of Powder £. 4 17 6

Ditto Ditto 1789, £. 1 6s. 4d. And of Powder £. 4 2 6

Difference in value of raw materials 65 per cent.
Of Powder 18 per cent.

It is evident from theſe ſtatements, that the manufacturers have never done juſtice to the liberal conceſſions in their favour, but, on the contrary, that they have aſſumed to themſelves a large portion of thoſe advantages, which were ſurrendered by the Company on the moſt public grounds, your Committee will therefore ſhew, that the trade was by no means in a ſituation to need ſuch aſſiſtance.

In 1783 the value of the materials of which a barrel of powder is compoſed, ſtood the manufacturer in - £. 2 4 11

Allow for the loſs of weight in refining the Petre, and for the waſte which the other articles may be ſubject to in the manufacture, ſay, 10 per cent. - £. 0 4 6

N. B. The Company's Petre has not for many years refracted on an average 5 per cent. ſay for labour and incidental charges of every kind, including riſk, 20 per per cent. which is conſidered as a moſt ample allowance - - - - 0 9 0

0 13 6

£. 2 18 5

Sale price in 1783, - £. 4 17 6

Diſcount 3 per cent. 0 2 11

4 14 7

Prime coſt - 2 18 5

Profit for home conſumption - £. 1 16 2

Or about 62 per cent. on prime coſt.—But if exported, Government allowed a bounty per barrel - 0 4 6

£. 2 0 8

Or near 70 per cent. on prime coſt.

Value of materials in 1789 - - £. 1 7 4

Allowance for waſte, 10 per cent. as before £. 0 2 9

Labor, &c. as before - - - 0 9 0

0 11 9

£. 1 19 1

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sale price, in 1789, - - | £. 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Diſcount 10 per cent. | 0 | 8 | 3 |
| | £. 3 | 14 | 3 |
| Prime coſt - | 1 | 19 | 1 |
| Profit for home conſumption - | 1 | 15 | 2 |
| Or near 90 per cent. on prime coſt. | | | |
| Bounty on exportation - - - | 0 | 4 | 6 |
| | £. 1 | 19 | 8 |
| Deduct 2½ per cent. for foreign orders - | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| | 1 | 17 | 7 |

Or 96 per cent. on prime coſt

It thus appears, that the Public have never participated in the advantage they had reaſon to expect from a reduction in the price of Saltpetre, by a comparative reduction in the price of Gunpowder. For the ſacrifices which have been made by the Company, to the manufacturers, from time to time, have been applied to the private advantage of a few opulent individuals, and in ſome inſtances, without the leaſt reduction in the price of Gunpowder to the Public.

It is evident moreover, That the manufacturers have a very different object in view, than that of a competition with foreigners; the price of Gunpowder on the Continent is uſually in proportion to that of Saltpetre, and at this moment, when the manufacture is in ſuch great demand, the difference between Saltpetre and Gunpowder on the Continent is no more than 12 to 13 per $\frac{o}{o}$. The fact is, that the whole of the ſupply for

Great

Great-Britain, its Shipping, Colonies, and Trade to Africa, is in the hands of a few opulent individuals; who, whilſt they have ſucceeded to compel the Company to offer the raw materials at a loſs, have always ſupported the price of Gunpowder much beyond its fair proportion.

There is no illicit trade in the article; the foreign manufacture doth not interfere in this country; and the few inſtances of ſhips for Africa who proceed to Ports on the Continent, as alluded to by the Memorialiſts, go thither for other articles, but they very properly ſeize the opportunity of purchaſing Gunpowder at the ſame time, for the purpoſe of avoiding the enormous prices which are exacted from them at home.

The laſt Act of Parliament directs, that the Company ſhall put up to ſale 5,000 bags more than the average of what has been ſold at the 4 ſales preceding, and at the price of 31*s.* in times of peace. In conſequence of this regulation, which, with regard to quantity had always governed the Company, previous to the Act of Parliament, as more will be offered than the conſumption requires, the price muſt be 31 *s. 6d.*

For the ſatisfaction of the Court your Committee have annexed * the particulars of the quantity which has been offered for ſale, the quantity ſold, and the quantity refuſed, together with the average price for 30 years paſt; from which it will appear, not only that the Company have furniſhed more than ſufficient for the demand, but that in peaceable regular times, a price higher than 31*s. 6d.* cannot be expected.

* See Appendix, No. III.

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This circumſtance naturally leads to a point which your Committee conceive merits the moſt ſerious attention of His Majeſty's Miniſters, as it is fair to aſk what right have the manufacturers of Gunpowder to expect Saltpetre at ſo low a price? And what compenſation or advantage doth the Public receive in return?

The manufacturers enjoy the whole of the ſupply of Great-Britain, its Shipping, and trade to Africa: the ſale to other ports being accidental and not worth notice. And your Committee are perſuaded, that a much higher price will not introduce foreign Gunpowder; whilſt they are decidedly of opinion, that a reduction in the price of Saltpetre has not contributed to extend the ſale of that which has been manufactured at home.

The article cannot be conſidered as an excluſive product, becauſe it is found in every country; but if it participates in a great degree of the advantages of thoſe excluſive products, from whence the reſpective Governments are diſpoſed to derive ſome benefit to the State, ſuch for inſtance, as Cochineal; for the very low price at which Saltpetre may be purchaſed in Bengal; and the very high price which it will coſt if produced elſewhere, admits of an intermediate value to a conſiderable amount, equally ſuſceptible of appropriation as any revenue or advantage which the Government of Spain can derive from the excluſive product of Cochineal.

When the manufacturers have applied for a reduction in the price, it has been accompanied with an expectation that it would encreaſe the quantity, and they carried their ideas to 100,000 Bags, or about 7,500 tons. With how much truth they hold forth ſuch an expectation, may be correctly aſcertained from the Appendix No. III. for if a deduction be made for the quantity conſumed in other manufactures which have been eſtabliſhed or

extended

extended of late years; and for the additional conſumption ariſing from the encreaſe of Britiſh ſhipping, it will be found that whether the price is £80. as heretofore, or £31. at which the Company are compelled to offer Saltpetre in time of peace conformably to the late Act of Parliament, the real conſumption by the makers of Gunpowder will be nearly the ſame. On the other hand your Committee think it neceſſary to ſtate the immenſe difference reſulting from thoſe prices, which is a loſs to the Company, or more properly to the Public, for the reaſons already mentioned, and that upon a ſuppoſition of 3000 tons of Saltpetre being ſold in one year, inſtead of the exaggerated quantity of 7500 tons as alluded to by the Memorialiſts,

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3000 tons, at £.80 is | - | £.240,000 |
| the ſame at £.31 is | - | 93,000 |
| | Loſs | £.147,000 |

When the price of Saltpetre was at £.80 there was no complaint of illicit trade, and your Committee never heard of foreign Gunpowder in thoſe times.

Your Committee are therefore inclined to hope, that if the Court ſhall approve of an application to His Majeſty's Miniſters on the ſubject, that they will plainly perceive the great injury which the Company and the Public ſuffer under the preſent reſtrictions, and which a few opulent individuals have converted to their private advantage.

In the laſt century, when partial monopolies prevailed, and diſputes aroſe between individuals and the Company on the ſame ſubject, the Company eſtabliſhed mills for making Gunpowder, a circumſtance which is recommended to the ſerious attention of the Court, as the means for ſupplying the conſumers of Gun-



powder

powder with a ſuperior quality, and at a cheaper rate, whilſt the Company and the Public will not ſuſtain injury to the extent which they ſuffer under the preſent reſtrictions.

(Signed) F. Baring.
John Smith Burges.
Hugh Inglis.
Paul le Meſurier.
Jacob Bosanquet.
Thomas Pattle.
William Elphinstone.
John Travers.
Thomas Fitzhugh.

East-India Houſe,
20th March, 1793.

# LIST OF APPENDIX.


No. 1.

An Account of the Quantity of Saltpetre imported into Great Britain between the 5th January 1780 and the 5th January 1793, diſtinguiſhing each Year and the Countries from whence the ſame was imported.

No. 2.

An Account of the Quantity of Gunpowder exported from Great Britain between the 5th January 1780 and the 5th January 1793, diſtinguiſhing each Year and the Countries to which exported.

No. 3.

An Account of the Quantity of Saltpetre put up, ſold, and refuſed, with the Average Price of each Sale and each Year, for the laſt Thirty Years.

# APPENDIX, No. 1.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Saltpetre imported into Great Britain between the 5th January 1780, and the 5th
Countries from whence the ſame was imported.

| | 1780 | 1781 | 1782 | 1783 | 1784 | 1785 | 1786 | 1787 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denmark | — | — | 2000 0 0 | 3600 0 0 | — | — | — | — | |
| Ruſſia | 4146 2 8 | 3730 2 15 | 4326 2 21 | 33 3 14 | — | 14 2 7 | — | — | |
| East Country | 483 3 3 | 1498 0 0 | 4735 0 22 | 1453 1 3 | 315 2 14 | 1541 2 24 | 2885 2 21 | 1627 2 9 | |
| Germany | 56 1 11 | 1270 3 3 | 2435 2 26 | 282 1 22 | 22 2 26 | — | 0 3 18 | 31 3 14 | |
| Holland | 1949 0 14 | 249 2 7 | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Flanders | — | 63 2 16 | 8557 1 7 | 7 0 22 | — | — | — | — | |
| France | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Portugal | — | — | 10,311 0 0 | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Italy | — | 1777 1 16 | 138 0 14 | — | — | — | — | 76 3 0 | |
| Ireland | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Aſia | 26,488 1 7 | 44,354 0 24 | 12,492 1 7 | 27,534 2 4 | 89,827 1 0 | 63,312 2 2 | 49,181 0 9 | 24,463 1 5 | 29,8 |
| Turkey | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| States | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Total | 33,124 0 15 | 52,944 0 25 | 44,996 1 13 | 32,911 1 9 | 90,165 2 12 | 64,868 3 5 | 52,067 2 20 | 26,199 2 0 | 29,9 |

N. B. The Cargoes of the Aſia, Manſhip, and Dutton, are not come to hand.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Saltpetre exported from Great Britain between the 5th January 1780, and the 5th
Countries to which exported.

| | 1780 | 1781 | 1782 | 1783 | 1784 | 1785 | 1786 | 1787 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denmark | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 2 0 | — | |
| Ruſſia | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 22 |
| Sweden | — | — | — | 956 3 21 | — | — | — | — | |
| East Country | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Flanders | — | — | — | 11 1 4 | 12 0 0 | 758 2 9 | 8 2 8 | 20 0 0 | |
| France | — | — | — | — | 195 2 7 | — | — | — | |
| Spain | — | — | — | 6 0 0 | — | 11 0 0 | — | — | |
| Italy | — | — | — | — | 53 1 9 | 44 1 5 | 12 2 0 | 27 0 25 | 1 |
| Ireland | 2101 2 22 | 1622 1 16 | 3498 2 4 | 1362 1 14 | 2163 2 20 | 1791 1 12 | 1942 3 24 | 3475 0 21 | 199 |
| Iſle of Guernſey | — | — | — | — | — | 1 3 0 | — | — | |
| Colonies | 2 2 0 | 0 2 2 | 12 0 0 | 6 0 0 | 6 1 17 | 62 2 0 | 1 0 24 | 18 2 25 | 1 |
| States | — | 20 2 14 | — | 64 2 4 | 259 2 1 | 114 1 27 | 161 3 0 | 549 2 17 | 43 |
| Weſt Indies | — | — | — | 24 3 13 | 20 1 12 | 12 25 0 | 19 1 12 | 18 3 6 | 1 |
| Germany | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Venice | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Holland | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Total | 2104 0 22 | 1643 2 14 | 3510 2 4 | 2432 0 0 | 2710 3 10 | 2796 0 22 | 2146 3 12 | 4109 2 10 | 270 |
| Drawbacks paid — £. | 762 15 4 | 595 16 3 | 1272 11 4 | 881 12 0 | 982 13 6 | 1013 12 4 | 778 4 8 | 1489 14 6 | 97 |

e 5th January 1793; distinguishing each Year, and the

| | 1788 | 1789 | 1790 | 1791 | 1792 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | — | — | 2445 2 17 | — | 2047 0 15 |
| | — | — | — | — | — |
| 9 | — | — | 34 1 3 | — | — |
| 14 | 39 3 10 | 18 0 11 | 28 0 0 | 3663 1 7 | 200 0 0 |
| | — | — | 5503 1 13 | 173 1 24 | 100 0 0 |
| | — | — | 55 1 15 | 1020 2 11 | 588 3 12 |
| | — | — | — | — | — |
| | — | — | 2600 0 0 | 209 3 1 | 2425 3 20 |
| 0 | — | — | — | 81 0 3 | 126 3 26 |
| | — | 21 2 11 | — | — | — |
| 5 | 29,877 3 7 | 29,332 1 12 | 29,532 2 0 | 34,166 1 5 | 38,305 0 4 |
| | — | — | — | 26 0 12 | — |
| | — | — | — | — | 200 0 0 |
| 0 | 29,917 2 17 | 29,372 0 6 | 40,199 0 20 | 39,340 2 7 | 43,993 3 21 |

e 5th January 1791; distinguishing each Year, and the

| | 1788 | 1789 | 1790 | 1791 | 1792 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | — | 42 0 4 | 1060 1 7 | — | — |
| | 222 2 15 | — | — | — | 30 3 9 |
| | — | 1468 2 22 | — | — | — |
| | — | 1 0 0 | 1 2 0 | — | — |
| 0 | — | 2 0 0 | — | — | — |
| | — | 6 0 0 | — | — | — |
| | 3 0 0 | — | — | — | — |
| 25 | 10 2 0 | 11 0 14 | — | — | — |
| 21 | 1995 2 8 | 2116 2 15 | 2495 1 12 | 3394 0 0 | 2054 3 13 |
| | — | — | — | — | — |
| 25 | 13 1 19 | 261 3 17 | 9 1 17 | 0 2 0 | 53 2 4 |
| 17 | 438 0 2 | 15 1 22 | 358 0 14 | 135 0 0 | — |
| 6 | 18 2 7 | 4 2 16 | 3 1 14 | — | — |
| | — | — | 5 0 9 | — | — |
| | — | — | 11 1 24 | — | — |
| | — | — | — | 0 1 22 | — |
| 10 | 2701 2 23 | 3929 1 26 | 3944 2 13 | 3529 3 22 | 2139 0 2 6 |
| 6 | 979 7 5 | 2586 18 9 | 2305 18 6 | 2183 2 6½ | 1969 2 6½ |

# APPENDIX, No. 2.

An ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Gunpowder exported from Great Britain, between the 5th January 1780, and the 5th January
to which exported.

| | 1780. | 1781. | 1782. | 1783. | 1784. | 1785. | 1786. | 1787. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pounds. | Pounds. | Pounds. | Pounds. | Pounds. | Pounds. | Pounds. | Pounds. | P |
| Denmark | | | | | | | | | |
| Sweden | | | | | | | | 33,700 | |
| Germany | | | | 129,400 | 49,800 | 531,375 | 500 | 20,600 | |
| Flanders | | | | 16,200 | 14,000 | 26,000 | 20,000 | 18,500 | |
| France | | | | | | | 28,500 | 67,120 | |
| Portugal | | | | | | 55,300 | | 2,500 | |
| Spain | | | | | 34,100 | 18,625 | 10,212 | 52,000 | |
| Streights and Gibraltar | | | | | 17,500 | 65,900 | 20,000 | | |
| Italy | | | | 40,000 | 137,550 | | 17,000 | 151,800 | |
| Turkey | 39,452 | 50,997 | 35,200 | 32,816 | 42,350 | 37,280 | 29,760 | 16,561 | |
| Ireland | | | | | 1,000 | | 1,400 | 4,150 | |
| Isle of Guernsey, &c. | 51,375 | 78,128 | 99,176 | 84,332 | 134,950 | 167,767 | 198,919 | 101,837 | |
| Colonies | 16,940 | 5,000 | 2,499 | 82,925 | 340,900 | 151,085 | 113,094 | 268,361 | I |
| States | 115,803 | 25,000 | 36,000 | 11,275 | 34,600 | 22,850 | 42,650 | 44,817 | |
| West-Indies | 105,000 | 71,001 | 98,476 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 5,000 | 4,000 | 10,250 | |
| Asia | 204,680 | 362,502 | 394,301 | 1,159,725 | 1,146,150 | 1,563,400 | 1,412,300 | 1,258,400 | 1,4 |
| Africa | | | | | | | | | |
| East Country | | | | | | | | | |
| Isle of Man | | | | | | | | | |
| Florida | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 533,250 | 592,628 | 665,652 | 1,560,173 | 1,956,400 | 2,644,582 | 1,898,335 | 2,050,596 | 1,9 |
| | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. |
| Bounties paid | 1,114 5 2½ | 1,447 8 7½ | 1,512 13 0 | 3,310 15 6 | 4,679 7 11½ | 5,144 15 3½ | 3,911 9 8 | 4,256 14 4½ | 4,669 |

1 January 1793, distinguishing each Year, and the Countries

| | 1788. | 1789. | 1790. | 1791. | 1792. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pounds. | Pounds. | Pounds. | Pounds. | Pounds. |
| | 950 | 151,000 | 80,000 | | |
| | | 250,000 | 80,000 | | |
| | 506 | | | | |
| | 3,150 | 5,004 | | 1,000 | 2,972 |
| | 10,000 | 6,110 | 2,200 | 11,000 | 6,000 |
| | 2,000 | | 1,000 | | 1,036 |
| | | | | | |
| | 39,560 | 22,200 | 75,700 | 111,000 | 6,000 |
| | 32,000 | | | 3,000 | 18,900 |
| | 27,525 | 614,300 | 561,200 | 233,000 | 27,400 |
| | 27,100 | 40,975 | 105,025 | 26,554 | 150,385 |
| | 1,550 | 1,850 | 1,000 | 2,850 | 5,200 |
| | 64,662 | 102,090 | 84,950 | 129,983 | 231,228 |
| | 177,591 | 97,415 | 104,525 | 236,019 | 189,945 |
| | 79,050 | 61,225 | 39,878 | 19,608 | 41,270 |
| | 14,250 | 7,250 | 2,500 | 5,950 | |
| | 1,482,475 | 1,288,200 | 2,056,350 | 1,581,175 | 1,760,825 |
| | | | 43,235 | | |
| | | | 672 | 500 | |
| | | | 18,900 | | |
| | 1,962,367 | 2,647,619 | 3,257,135 | 2,361,639 | 2,441,161 |
| d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | | |
| 4½ | 4,669 9 4½ | 5,440 6 2¾ | 6,274 5 8¼ | | |

## AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Saltpetre put up, sold, and refused, with the Average Price of each Sale, and each Year, for the last Thirty Years.

| Years. | Bags put up. | Bags sold. | Average Price per Cent. of the March and Sept. Sales. | Average Price per. Cent. of each Year. | Bags refused. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1763 | 41,371 | 19,861 | | | 21,510 |
| 1764 | 37,238 | 32,634 | | | 4,604 |
| 1765 | 34,595 | 21,576 | | | 13,019 |
| 1766 | 31,376 | 18,816 | | | 12,560 |
| 1767 | 29,516 | 21,640 | | | 7,876 |
| 1768 | 30,445 | 15,468 | | | 14,977 |
| 1769 | 25,880 | 17,356 | | | 8,524 |
| 1770 | 37,728 | 26,665 | | | 11,063 |
| 1771 | 37,939 | 27,846 | 4 0 6 | 4 0 6 | 10,093 |
| 1772 | 34,250 | 23,297 | | | 10,953 |
| 1773 | 34,199 | 23,256 | | | 10,943 |
| 1774 | 24,727 | 23,024 | | | 1,703 |
| 1775 | 29,197 | 20,606 | | | 8,591 |
| 1776 | 30,877 | 23,489 | | | 73,88 |
| 1777 | 29,892 | 18,089 | | | 11,803 |
| 1778 | 22,754 | 18,372 | | | 4,382 |
| 1779 | 19,280 | 9,278 | | | 10,002 |
| 1780 | 15,209 | 11,773 | Mar. 4 0 6<br>Sept. 4 10 6 | 4 4 3 | 3,436 |
| 1781 | 12,075 | 8,342 | Mar. 5 18 0<br>Sept. 5 10 6 | 5 14 1 | 3,733 |
| 1782 | 19,607 | 10,205 | Mar. 4 15 6<br>Sept. 4 1 0 | 4 2 6 | 9,602 |
| 1783 | 24,729 | 17,761 | Mar. 4 0 6<br>Sept. 3 11 0 | 3 13 2 | 6,968 |
| 1784 | 43,918 | 31,977 | Mar. 3 5 6<br>Sept. 3 2 0 | 3 4 0 | 11,841 |
| 1785 | 41,786 | 30,286 | Mar. 3 2 0<br>Sept. 3 2 0 | 3 2 0 | 11,500 |
| 1786 | 41,862 | 27,453 | Mar. 2 15 6<br>Sept. 2 15 6 | 2 15 11 | 14,409 |
| 1787 | 45,329 | 43,531 | Mar. 2 10 6<br>Sept. 2 5 3 | 2 7 9 | 1,798 |
| 1788 | 51,230 | 36,441 | Mar. 2 2 6<br>Sept. 2 2 6 * | 2 3 5 | 14,789 |
| 1789 | 59,546 | 38,798 | Mar. 2 2 6<br>Sept. 1 18 6 | 2 0 10 | 20,708 |
| 1790 | 40,080 | 31,942 | Mar. 1 18 6<br>Sept. 2 11 6 | 2 2 9 | 8,638 |
| 1791 | 32,000 | 30,241 | Mar. 2 5 6<br>Sept. 2 5 0 | 2 5 2 | 1,759 |
| 1792 | 42,871 | 42,871 | Mar. 2 11 6<br>Sept. 3 7 10 | 3 0 0 | |

* In the Years 1786 to 1790, much of the Saltpetre had undergone a Refinement in India, which rendered it superior in Value to Gruff Petre by 2 s. per Cwt. The half-yearly Average, here noticed, is of the Gruff Sort only. The yearly Average include both.

In a review of this Account it will be ſeen, that during the ten years, commencing 1770 and ending 1779, the quantity declared for ſale was — — Bags 300,843

Ditto purchaſed — — 213,852

Ditto remained unſold — — 86,921

And that in the ſeven years from 1783 to 1789, there were

Declared — — Bags 308,400

Purchaſed — — 226,247

Remained unſold — — 82,153

Making on an average for each year,

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Declared | from 1770 | 30,084 | from 1783 | 44,057 |
| Sold | to 1799, | 21,385 | to 1789, | 32,321 |
| Remained unſold | | 8,692 | | 11,736 |

The years 1780, 1781, 1782, and 1790, 1791, 1792, are not introduced into the latter ſtate, becauſe they are periods from which no fair and juſt concluſions can be drawn that are applicable to any regular commercial ſyſtem. In the former, this country was engaged in a war with America, France, Spain and Holland, the ſeverity of which occaſioned an almoſt total ſuſpenſion of all commercial operations: and in the latter, the unſettled ſtate of affairs in Europe, which have long been approaching to the preſent ſtate of warfare, has given birth to a variety of ſpeculations, and ſo far thrown things out of their natural channel.